

Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05

CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03

USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00

FRB-03 XMB-02 PA-01 PRS-01 IO-10 /122 W

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R 151250Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1553

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 4593

E.O. 11625: GDS

TAGS: EFIN, IMF, IR

SUBJ: VISIT OF CANADIAN FINANCE MINISTER--IRANIAN INTEREST IN
SEAT ON IMF BOARD

REF: JIDDA 3068

1. FOR THE RECORD, WE CHECKED WITH THE CANADIAN EMBASSY REGARDING
IRAN'S REPORTED INTERESTE (REFTEL) IN "CLAIMING" A SEAT ON THE
INTERNTAIONAL MONETARY FUND BOARD OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS. POL:ECON
OFFICER SINCLAIR SHOWED EMBOFF REPORT OF FINANCE MINISTER TURNER'S
VISIT WHICH DID NOT MENTION GOI INTEREST IN UPGRADING ITS IMF REP-
RESENTATION. IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF IMF INTERIM COMMITTEE,
TURNER DISCUSSED WITH GOI OFFICIALS IN GENERAL TERMS IMF QUOTA
INCREASES FOR IRAN AND OTHER OPEC MEMBERS.REPORT STATED IRANIANS HAD
MENTIONED THEIR DESIRE FOR QUOTA INCREASES ONLY "IN ACCORDANCE WITH
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THE NEW ECONOMIC REALITIES." SINCLAIR SAID HE IS CERTAIN REPORT

WOULD HAVE MENTIONED ANY REQUEST MADE TO TURNER BY A GOI
OFFICIAL FOR AN IRANIAN SEAT ON THE IMF BOARD.

2. ELSEWHERE, THE REPORT COVERED WELL KNOWN IRANIAN POSITIONS ON
THE PRICE OF OIL, SUPPORT FOR THE IMF OIL FACILITY, FAVORING THE
GRADUAL DEMONETIZATION OF GOLD, AND CONCERN OVER THE UNCERTAINTIES
OF FULCTUATING EXCHANGE RATES AND GRADUAL DECLINE IN THE VALUE OF
THE U.S. DOLLAR.

3. COMMENT:IRAN, WHICH CURRENTLY HAS AN ELECTED IMF EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR, WOULD HARDLY SEEM LIKELY AT THIS STAGE TO SERIOUSLY
ASPIRE TO A PERMANENT SEAT ON THE BOARD. A FEW WEEKS BEFORE TURNER
VISIT, EMBOFF DISCUSSED PROSPECTIVE IMF QUOTA INCREASES WITH
MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND FINANCE UNDER SECRETARY AHMAD
KOOROS WHO SIMPLY STATED OPEC-MEMBER IMF QUOTAS SHOULD RISE TO
REFLECT THEIR STRENGTHENED FINANCIAL POSITIONS. ASSUMING IT REMAINS
WITH ITS CURRENT GROUPING, WHICH IS REPRESENTED ON THE IMF
BOARD BY IRANIAN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JAHANGIR AMUZEGAR, IRAN WITH
A LARGER QUOTA PROBABLY COULD EASILY EXERCISE ENOUGH CONTROL
OVER THE GROUP TO ASSURE THAT EITHER AN IRANIAN OR ANOTHER EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR OF WHICH IT APPROVES IS ELECTED.

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